



**State of Vermont**  
**Department of Vermont Health Access**  
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Dear Medicaid Provider,

Effective immediately, the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), in conjunction with Change Healthcare, is making changes to its clinical criteria for approval of direct acting antiviral agents used in the treatment of Hepatitis C. These agents include but are not limited to: Harvoni® (ledipasvir/sofosbuvir), Epclusa® (sofosbuvir/velpatasvir), Sovaldi® (sofosbuvir), Viekira PAK® (ombitasvir, paritaprevir, ritonavir, dasabuvir), Zepatier® (elbasvir/grazoprevir), Daklinza® (daclatasvir), and Technivie® (ombitasvir, paritaprevir, ritonavir). These changes resulted from review of AASLD and IDSA guidelines, and DVHA's Drug Utilization Review Advisory Board recommendations.

Previously, there was a requirement that the member have a documented Metavir fibrosis score of F3 or F4 to qualify for treatment with these drugs. Approval will now be granted to those individuals with a fibrosis score of **F2 and above**. There has also been a requirement that documentation be submitted in provider notes showing that the member had no abuse of alcohol and drugs for the previous 6 months. This requirement will be removed and will no longer be applicable.

Due to the complexity and variety of treatment options and potential for drug interactions, the requirement that the prescriber is, or has consulted with, a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, ID specialist or other Hepatitis specialist will remain in place. Consult must be within the past year and include documentation regarding the requested regimen.

Direct Acting Antivirals will continue to require prior authorization to ensure the patient meets clinical criteria and that the most cost effective, clinically appropriate regimen is utilized. The changes described above are incorporated into the Prior Authorization form and DVHA's Preferred Drug List (PDL) available on the DVHA provider website <http://dvha.vermont.gov/for-providers/>. Please contact the Change Healthcare Provider Helpdesk at 1-844-679-5363 or if you have any questions about these changes.

Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's clinical pharmacy programs.

Nancy J. Hogue, BS, Pharm.D.

Director of Pharmacy Services